के नये तरीके अपनाये जा रहे हैं और गैर आदिवासी लोग सहकारी समितियों तथा भोली भाली आदिवासी महिलाओं के माध्यम से उनकी भूमि अपने नाम में स्थानांतरित करा लेते हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस प्रकार के शोषण और भूमि के अवैध हस्तान्तरण को रोकने के लिए क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं?

कल्याण मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्रीमती सुमति ओरांव) :(क) और (ख) जी, हां। राज्यों को उपयुक्त रूप से लिखा गया है कि वे अपने वर्तमान भूमि संबंधी कानूनों की समीक्षा करें तथा कमियों को दूर करने के लिए उपाय करें ताकि सभी प्रकार के बेनामी हस्तांतरणों को रोका जा सके जिनमें सहकारी समितियों, आदिवासी महिलाओं की शादी के माध्यम से हस्तांतरण शामिल है तथा आदिवासी कृषि मजदूरों, नौकरों आदि को काम पर लगाते हुए उनके माध्यम से हस्तांतरण शामिल हैं। ऐसे मामलों का पता लगाने के लिए कुछ राज्यों में विशेष स्टाफ तैनात किया गया है। हस्तांतरित भूमि का पता लगाने तथा उन्हें भूमि वापस दिलवाने के लिए राजस्व अधिकारियों को अपनी ओर से कार्यवाही शुरू करने का अधिकार दिया गया है।

Housing and Transport facilities at Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur

2198. SHRI B. L. PANWAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there any housing and transport facilities are available to the employees of the Doordarshan Kendra, Japiur; and

(b) if not, by when these facilities are likely to be made available to Artists and other participants to promote local songs and cultural programmes?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) Transport facilities are provided to the shift duty staff of Doordarshan Kendra, Jaipur, during odd hours as per normal practice. Participants who are not employees of the Kendra are generally not provided transport facilities. As regards, housing facilities, a suitable site to construct staff quarters has been identified. Construction would depend upon the availability of land and allocation of fund.

Implementation of Labour Laws throughout the country

2199. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the steps taken so far or being taken to strictly implement the labour laws throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): All apporpriate steps are taken by the Central and State Government.

The 36th Session of Labour Ministers' Conference held in May, 1987 discussed and decided that it is essential to implement all the labour laws with special emphasis on the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979, the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, the Child Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1986, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, etc. The conclusions of the Conference are given in the Annexure. State Governments/Union Territories Administrations were requested to take necessary follow-up action. As a follow-up to the Labour Ministers' Conference, the Regional

Conferences of the Labour Ministers for the Southern, eastern, northern and western zones were held on different dated in October, 1987 and December, 1987. These Conferences reviewed the progress of action taken in respect of the conclusions reached at the May, 1987 Conference. Particularly, the status of implementation and enforcement of labour laws relevant for the unorganised labour were discussed and important recommendations were made for better implementation of these laws.

Amendments to some important labour laws have also been made for effective enforcement of the labour laws. The following Amendment Acts have come into force:—

(i) Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act, 1986—This Act was brought into force from 15-4-1987 and replaced the Indian Dock Labourers Act, 1934.

(ii) Labour Welfare Fund Laws (Amendment) Act, 1987—This Act was brought into force with effect from 22-5-1987.

(iii) The Payment of Gratuity (Amendment) Act, 1987—This Act except sections 4(a) and 5 was brought into force with effect from 1-10-1987.

(iv) Factories (Amendment) Act, 1987—This Act has been brought into force with effect from 1-12-1987 except Sections 7-B and 41-F which have come into operation on 1-6-1988.

(v) The Equal Remuneration (Amendment) Act, 1987—This Act was brought into force with effect from 17-12-1987.

(iv) The Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions (Amendment) Act, 1988—Some of the provisions of this Act have come into force with effect from 1-8-1988.

(vii) Cine Workers' Welfare Fund (Amendment) Act, 1987—This Act has been brought into force with effect from 10-8-1988.

Conclusions of the 36th session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held on 20 May, 1987

1. The Labour Ministers endorse the call given by the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi that 90 per cent of the country's labour force that work in the unorganised sector should be the first priority of both the Central and State Governments. They also welcomed the announcement made by the Prime Minister that a National Commission on Rural Labour will be set up to go into the problems faced by the unorganised labour. The Conference urges that the formation of the Commission be notified at an early date.

2. In order to raise the status of unorganised labour it is essential to implement the labour laws which most closely concern them. Among these are the Minimum Wages Act, 1948; Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979; The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970; The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976; The Child Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1986; The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966; etc. The problems of unorganised labour working in the plantation and in the construction industry, as also of apprentices, need attention. Safety of workers should also receive due attention.

3. It was acknowledged that minimum wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act should bear a relation to the concept of the "Poverty Line". After discussion, it was generally felt that a level of wages not lower than Rs. 11.00 per day should be fixed. It was indicated by many States that the minimum wages notified by them were already at or above this level.

4. The need for addition of specific employments in the schedule and periodical revision of Minimum Wages once in at least over 2 years or on a rise of 50 points of the consumer Price Indix Number, first set out by the 31st Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference in July, 1980, is reiterated. It is agreed that minimum wages, particularly, in respect of agricultural employment under the Minimum Wages Act, will be immediately reviewed and new rates of minimum wages notified within six months, wherever required.

5. The guidelines for regional minimum wages circulated to the States were generally acceptable. However, the Regional Committees or forums should be statutory, but be advisory and consultative in nature. Further, they should go into only specific employments, where minimum wages for the same employment in one of a set of contiguous States cause problems in other neighbouring State of States.

6. The difficulties in implementation of the Minimum Wages Act need to be specifically addressed, and ways found to remove these difficulties. Particularly, action will have to be directed towards the followings:

(a) Removing the lack of awareness among labour as well as employers of the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, and other Act, and other Acts, affecting unorganised labour, through a sustainedd publicity campaign both by the Central and the State Governments;

(b) Strengthening and upgrading the enforcement machinery of the State Governments with assistance from the Central Government as may be required;

(c) Ensuring that inspection staff have the necessary mobility by *giving them transport facility* and extending to them security in the course of their work involving enforcement of the Minimum Wages Act and other Legislation governing agricultural and other labour especially in rural areas. Central Govenment may consider extending suitable assistance to State Governments for this.

(d) The assistance of other Departments of State Governments like the Revenue Department, Rural Development Department, Welfare and other Departments should also be taken, depending upon the conditions obtaining in indivdual States|Union Territories for the effective enforcement and implementation of the laws above mentioned.

7. Claims authorities under the Minimum Wages Act and other Acts would be appointed at the block levels to see that workers get relief quickly; also, prosecuting authorities should exist, ideally, at block level.

8. State Level Advisory Boards and Tripartite Boards|Committees should meet regularly to review monitoring and implementation of the legislation governing unorganised labour.

9. In order to raise income levels of unorganised labour, States would also adopt an integrated approach involving increase in general awareness about the laws governing unorganised labour, acceleration of anti-poverty programmes, accelerating employment generation programmes, and the enforcement of minimum wages.

10. The identification and rehabilitation of bonded labour should be accorded priority as a part of the 20-Point Programme. This scheme should be integrated with the other antipoverty programme, so as to ensure that freed bonded labour do not slip back into bondage.

11. In respect of inter-state migrant workmen, laision offices should be set up in the State where such workmen work. These offices should be manned by officers drawn from the State of origin of the migrant

labour to assist migrant labour to obtain their entitled benefits under the various Act.

The Workmen's Compensation Act needs to be amended so as to enable the State Government to transfer cases with or without the consent of the concerned parties to those States from where workers have migrated. The joint study teams set up by the Central Government should reactivated.

12. In respect of women labour, it was agreed that the State Governments would set up the enforcement of the Equal Remunerations Act, as part of the work entrusted to labour insepctors earmarked for enforcing laws related to unorganised labour. Particularly, industries where women are employed in large numbers, e.g., Beedi making, may have arrangements for inspection and implementation of the connected legislation like Beedi and Cigar workers (Conditions and Employment) Act, 1966.

13. The expansion of computerisation to cover employment exchanges with live registers of 50,000 and above would help to improve the employment market information programme and also be of a great assistance to job seekers. The necessary assistance to the State Governments should be made available by the Central Government in this respect.

Damage due to Floods in Assam

2200. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and extent of the loss of life and property and the damage to agricultural crops caused by three successive floods in Assam during the current monsoon season; and

(b) what is the total amount of financial grant sanctioned to the Government of Assam for relief and rehabilitation measures in the flood affected areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN TI DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTUI AND COOPERAION IN THE MINI TRY OF AGRICULTURE (SH SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) The lc (Provisional) due to recent floods reported by the State Governmen given bleow:—

1	Districts affected . . .	1
2	Area affected (lakh ha.) .	4.4
3	Population affected (lakh) .	19.0
4	Human lives lost . . .	5(
5	Cattle heads lost . . .	315
6	Cropped area damaged (lakh ha.)	1.6(

(b) The Central share of margi money amounting to Rs. 3,625 crore has been released.

Impact of Earthquackes in Idukki District in Kerala

2201. SHRI N. E. BALRAM: Wil the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whetner Government's attention has been drawn to a series of earth quackes reported in Idukki district of Kerala recently;

(b) if so, whether a central team had visited the areas to study the impact of these tremors; and

(c) if so, the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERAION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a)Yes, Sir:

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Prices of Zinc

2202. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state: